

1949

59721

F
1227

EASTERN

BRUNE 1

1949

59721

Correspondence with the Sultan.CLOSED
UNTIL

C.O.

2000

C. O. 943/1/20

Previous

Compare 59715/48.

S 809 7/9
Sir G. Whiteley 7/9
R. H. 538 13/9
PUT BY H. 531.

Subsequent

59721/50

H 531

31/5

MR ASHTON.

31/5

Sir G. Whiteley

31/5

MR Higham

2/6

CS Robert

3/6

H 431.

—

H 531

7/6

H 03.

7/6

H 431

8/6

H 03

8/VI

PUT BY

H 531

24/7

MR ASHTON.

27/7

Sir G. Whiteley

27/7

MR Higham

3/8

R. ND Watson

8/8

H 03

19/III

FILE A

H-531

51402/780 6,000 11/47 N.M.Ltd.

1949

59721

1949
KEEP

1943

59721

Sir Gerald Whitely.

2

Following the precedent of Mr. Macdonald's letter at (3) on 5/9/48 behind, I have drafted a reply to (1).

I think that we should be non-committal, rather than discouraging, on the question of public expenditure, because it seems reasonable that something should be spent from State funds on such an occasion, however obscure or unworthy the ruler may be.

With reference to the last para. of the draft, you may remember that the Sultan has recently passed some months in Kuching 'on account of his health'.

K. J. Sultan
31/5

M. G. S. Roberts

3

The Sultan is, of course, a drunkard
and, in the words of a recent letter from Sir
Charles Allen Clarke "altogether unworthy."

1 Sultan of Brunei ——— JH 2/6
3/6/49.

H.O.3.
see F.A. on 2.

3 to Brunei. Despatch 11 of (1+2) for info. Lf. -8 JUN 1949

~~8~~

4 Sultan of Brunei ——— 11/7/49

Sir Gerald Whiteley.

4

I submit two drafts, alternative to one another, in reply to (4).

2. Draft A may well discourage the Sultan from writing again to the S. of S., but it is rather perfunctory, perhaps a little discourteous, and certainly unrealistic inasmuch as the Resident will have been consulted (x + y of (4)) without success before (4) was written.

3. Therefore I prefer Draft B which attempts to give a reasoned reply. It will not satisfy the Sultan, but it may at least convince him that some thought has been given to his requests and that they have not been rejected simply because the S. of S. could not be expected to consider them on their merits.

4. I am almost sure that the Sultan is being unreasonable or blind in asking for preferential treatment of his war damage compensation claim. He may however have a legitimate complaint regarding the inadequacy of his monthly allowance. It might therefore be worth while writing demi-officially to the High Commissioner for Brunei and asking him to make

5
sure that the Sultan is being
fairly treated in that respect. Any
such action on our part need not,
I suggest, alter the substance of
our reply to (4), because we would
not wish to promise the Sultan
anything over the head of the High
Commissioner or even to hint that we
thought that there might be any
justification for his complaints, let
his demands become too frequent or
exorbitant. If it is agreed that
we should write to the High Commissioner
as suggested above, the 'Further Action'
notes on the drafts opposite should
be deleted and the papers recirculated
to me when the reply to (4) has gone.

K. Ashton
27/7

Mr. Higham

It is undesirable to encourage the Sultan in
direct correspondence with the S of S. + the subjects
discussed in (4) are essentially matters for the Resident
+ High Commissioner to deal with.

However I agree with Mr. Ashton that it wd. be
a little discourteous simply to refer him to the Resident
+ therefore prefer the fuller reply as in Draft B
which will not I think involve any commitment or cause
embarrassment to the Resident or High Commissioner.

G.C. Whitcher

27/7

I have discussed with Sir G. Whitley and we have considerably altered Draft 'B' and had it retyped. I understand that in fact the Sultan could probably get an advance of war damage payment but there is no reason to hint at this in the letter as the Sultan might well not be regarded as a suitable claimant to be dealt with in this manner, and the matter must be left to be handled by the people on the spot.

JDH

6

(JOHN D. HIGHAM)
3rd August, 1949.

5 Sultan of Brunei - Ans 4 - 5/8/49.
6 to Brunei - Despatch No. 17 w/c. of (A-5) for info. L. f.

15 AUG 1949

✓

~~Brunei Despatch~~

~~13979~~

57

59721/49

5th August, 1949

Thank you for your letter of 11th July. I greatly regret the losses which you suffered, in common with your subjects, in the course of the operations preceding the liberation of Brunei.

I have no knowledge of the stage reached in assessing and accepting claims for compensation under the Brunei War Damage Compensation Scheme, and I suggest you should consult the Resident on this matter. Speaking generally, however, I fear that some delay is inevitable in the settlement of accepted claims, since it will take time to work out all the details of the scheme and a decision of the amount to be paid in any particular case must depend in consideration of all claims put forward in relation to the funds available for compensation, so as to ensure the fairest possible treatment of all. You will appreciate that it would not be possible to single out a particular claim for special treatment.

I have noted your remarks about your monthly allowance. In Britain also we have experience of the high cost of living and the consequent necessity for strict economy in personal expenditure, and to that extent I can appreciate your position. I regret however that I am not sufficiently acquainted with all the relevant circumstances to offer a considered opinion on the question of an increase in your allowance. This I feel is a matter for discussion with your official advisers.

As regards your Palace, I observe that provision has been made in the current estimates for the construction of a new Astana. I realise that the undertaking of this work

/is

His Highness the Sultan of Brunei

8

is dependent on the supply of materials and technical staff of which there is at present a general shortage, but I feel sure that the inclusion of this item in the Public Works programme will be a source of considerable satisfaction to you.

In conclusion I send Your Highness my best wishes for your health and for a happy and successful celebration of your jubilee in September.

(Sgd) A. Creech Jones.

C. O.

Mr. Ashton 27/7

~~Mr.~~ Sir G. Whiteley 27/7

Mr. Higham 4/8

Mr. ~~Roberts~~ *Watson* 7/8Mr. ~~Roberts~~ *Watson* 7/8

Permt. U.S. of S.

Parly. U.S. S.

Minister of State

Secretary of State

Your Reference.....

DRAFT. LETTERFor Secretary of State's signatureHIS HIGHNESS THE
SULTAN OF BRUNEI

Your Highness,

Thank you for your letter of 11th July. I greatly regret the losses which you suffered, in common with your subjects, in the course of the operations preceding the liberation of Brunei.

2. I have no knowledge of the stage reached in assessing and accepting claims for compensation under the Brunei War Damage Compensation Scheme, and I suggest you should consult the Resident on this matter. Speaking generally, however, I fear that some delay is inevitable in the settlement of accepted claims, since it will take time to work out all the details of the scheme and a decision of the amount to be paid in any particular case must depend in consideration of all claims put forward in relation to the funds available for compensation, so as to ensure the fairest possible treatment of all. You will appreciate that it would not be possible to single out a particular claim for special treatment.

FURTHER ACTION.

Two copies of this and of (4) to the High Commissioner for Brunei for information.

Depend all min arrange min.
(6)

2. I have noted your remarks about your monthly allowance. In Britain also we have experience of the high cost of living and the consequent necessity for strict economy in personal expenditure, and to that extent I can appreciate your position. I regret however that I am not sufficiently acquainted with all the relevant circumstances to offer a considered opinion on the question of an increase in your allowance. This I

feel is a matter for discussion with your official advisers.

141 As regards your Palace, I observe that provision has been made in the current estimates for the construction of a new Astana. I realise that the undertaking of this work is dependent on the supply of materials and technical staff of which there is at present a general shortage, but I feel sure that the inclusion of this item in the Public Works programme will be a source of considerable satisfaction to you.

151 In conclusion I send Your Highness my best wishes for your health and for a happy and successful celebration of your jubilee in September.

Draft B. (alternative)

59721/49

[456B] Wt. 32483/800 100m. 11/48 C.N.L.d. 748

11

O.

Mr. Sultan 27/7

Mr. Sir G. Whiteley 27/7 3/8

Mr. Higham *replied*

Mr. _____

Mr. Roberts

Permt. U.S. of S.

Parly. U.S. S.

Minister of State

Secretary of State

For sig. of
S. of S.

Your Reference _____

— July, 1949.

DRAFT. Letter.

His Highness
the Sultan
of Brunei.

Your Highness,

(4)

Thank you for your
letter of 11th July. I
~~was certainly sorry to~~
~~greatly regret~~
~~learn~~ of the losses
which you suffered,
in common with your subjects,
in the course of the operations ^{leading} to the liberation of
Brunei.

I have no ~~detailed~~ knowledge of the ~~details~~
of the Brunei War Damage Compensation
scheme ~~now~~ of the stage reached in arranging
accepting claims for compensation. I
suggest you should consult the Resident on this
matter. Speaking generally, however, I fear
that some delay is inevitable in the settlement
of accepted claims, since a decision
of the amount to be paid in any particular
case must depend
on consideration of
all claims put
forward in relation
to the funds available
for compensation, so
as to ensure the
fairest possible
treatment of all.

FURTHER ACTION.

Two copies of this
and of (4) to the
High Commissioner
for Brunei for info.

It will take time to work out all the details of the scheme
of accepted claims. Since a decision
of the amount to be paid in any particular
case must depend
on consideration of
all claims put
forward in relation
to the funds available
for compensation, so
as to ensure the
fairest possible
treatment of all.

that it would not be possible to single out a particular
claim for special treatment. I do not know

~~and regret the inconvenience
caused to you by the
delay in settling war
damage compensation
claims, and so no
doubt does the Resident.
The difficulty is ~~lower~~
that, until all claims
have been examined~~

and assessed, it will be impossible
to decide whether any particular
claim can be paid in full
or by how much it will have
to be reduced to ensure a

fair distribution of the ^{funds} ~~limited~~
~~reservoir of money which is~~
available for compensation.
Some delay is therefore unavoidable.

~~I can well imagine too~~

I note that you

~~that you may~~ find difficulty
in living on your ~~per~~ monthly
allowance, even though it has
been considerably increased
~~on~~ in recent years. We
suffer in Britain also from
the high cost of living, but
it is necessary to keep our personal
^{requirements} ~~demands~~ within modest
limits in order to ~~ensure~~ ^{promote to the greatest extent possible}

the economic recovery of ~~the~~ the
country. I have often

observed with interest and
pleasure the successful
development of the ~~Burmi~~
oil industry in ~~Burmi~~
and the consequent ^{benefit} ~~strengthen~~
~~to~~ the state finances, ~~but~~ I to which you refer, but I
am sure that you will
agree that these great revenues

Mr.

Mr.

Mr.

Mr.

Mr.

Permt. U.S. of S.

Parly. U.S. S.

Minister of State

Secretary of State

Your Reference.....

DRAFT.

Have
I noted that you find difficulty in living
^{remarks about you}
on your monthly allowance, even though it has
~~been considerably increased in recent years.~~

In Britain also we have experience of the
high cost of living, & the consequent
necessity for strict economy in personal
expenditure, to that extent I can appreciate
your position. I regret however that I am
not sufficiently acquainted with all the
relevant circumstances to offer a considered
opinion on the question of an increase in
your allowance. This I feel is a matter
for discussion with your ^{official} ~~government~~
advisers.

FURTHER ACTION.

As regards your Palace, I observe
that provision has been made in the
current estimates for the construction of
a new Ostana. I realise that the undertaking
of this work is dependent on the supply of
materials & technical staff of which there
is at present a general shortage, but
I feel sure that the inclusion of this item
in the Public Works programme will be

a source of considerable satisfaction to you.

14

In conclusion I send Your Highness my best
wishes for your health + for a happy successful
celebration of your jubilee in Sept.

Draft A.

59721/49

C. O.

Mr. Ashton 27/7

Mr. G. Whiteley

Mr.

Mr.

Mr.

Permt. U.S. of S.

Parly. U.S. S.

Minister of State

Secretary of State

Your Reference.....

For sig. of

S. of S.

— July, 1949.

DRAFT.

Letter.

His Highness
The Sultan
of Brunei.

Your Highness,

Thank you for your

(4) letter of 11th July. I
was certainly sorry
to learn of the losses
which you suffered,
in common with your
subjects, in the
liberation of Brunei.

Perhaps you would
be so good as to

FURTHER ACTION.

Two copies of this
and of (4) to the
High Commissioner
for Brunei for info.

16
consult the Resident on
the two questions raised
in your letter. I know
that he will gladly assist
you as ~~far~~ ^{much} as circumstances
allow.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

MEMORANDUM

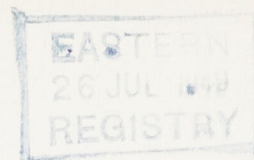
17

From PRIVATE SECRETARY

To Sir Gerald Whiteley

The S. O. S. would be
grateful if the attached letter
from the Sultan of Brunei could
be considered in the Dept. and
a draft reply prepared to
his suggestion.

W. Roberts
25.7.48



4.
18

Office of His Highness the Sultan
ISTANA KECHIE,
2½ Milestone, Rock Road,
JUCHING,
Brunei, 11th: JULY, 1949.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE,
Mr. A. Creech-Jones,
Secretary of State for the Colonies,
LONDON,
ENGLAND.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR,

Please excuse me if I am encroaching on your most valuable time before penning to you my submission of the following facts of what actually had taken place in my small State of Brunei at the time when the British made an attack on the Japanese and I hope with this submission, you will be placed in a very sound position to base your consideration with sympathy.

Let me first of all start with the story from the time when the British started to make a simultaneous attack from Land, Sea, and Air sometime during the latter part of year, 1945, on practically all the towns within the State. The whole Town of Brunei had turned into ashes by Allied bombing, Machine-gunning, and bombardment from the Brunei Bay from Battleships with object of either driving away the Japanese soldiers or smashing their Military Power of the Japanese who were thought to have masses together in large numbers within the State. There was not the slightest hope for the Japanese to ever withstand the attack by the British even if the Allies had only one plane as in Brunei then there were very few soldiers and they were poorly equipped.

As the result of the Allied Bombing raids my own palace was hit and one of the Machine-gun shots penetrated the wall of my palace and struck my writing table near which my wife and I were sitting together. It was only by mere Grace of God that we escaped unhurt. Realizing this danger, I made up my mind to remove to a place of safety to an Island not far away from Brunei Town called Tentaya in a jungle. In a great haste I had to leave my palace well-secured and carefully locked-up, with all my valuable belongings such as Jewelleries etc: in the palace.

When the British Army made a landing, they found that my palace had already been broken into and all my valuable Jewelleries of gold and silver and valuable ornaments had been taken away by looters or someone whose names were not known.

When conditions in Brunei became normal again and the British had made actual landing and occupation of the Town, I came out of my hiding-place and was received by a Guard-Of-Honour comprised of a body of British soldiers under the command of a Brigadier and Wing Commander Kay. In my State dress we were taken to the Residency, Brunei, and entertained to a Tea-Party. The Brigadier in command asked Wing Commander Kay to inform me that my palace had been broken into by looters and everything in it had either been smashed to bits or taken away by looters, and told me not to worry over the losses and further told me that the palace could not be occupied as it was still extremely dirty and broken bits of glasses were to be seen all over the floor of the palace. I replied that what had happened could not be helped and that I was well-satisfied and happy that the life of my wife, children and me had been spared. I thank Almighty God for His Benevolence and mercifulness to my family.



Office of His Highness the Sultan

-2-

Brunei, 194

A list of all the things lost were prepared such as Motor Cars, Motor Boats, things made of gold and silver. A fairly big and strong iron-safe was removed altogether. All valuables kept in several show-cases were also looted. My late father's Decorations the K.C.M.G. etc: was also lost in the safe. My own Decorations which I received from the Japanese Government and for which I was paid a Monthly Allowance of \$150.00 and a "SANJI STAR" for which I was paid an additional Allowance of \$25.00 a month were also looted. I do not at all feel sorry of these Japanese Decorations which I received from the Japanese Government but I merely wish to make it known to you of the actual things that I had lost. Luckily my own Decorations which I had received from His Majesty The King, the C.M.G, His Majesty's Coronation and Silver Jubilee Medals are still safe in my possession as these things which I valued most were taken along with me to the place where I was hiding for safety.

X I have now come to understand that it would take Government a very long time still to consider the payment to me of my War Damage Claims because the Government has to wait for the submission of all Claims in general from all Claimants in the whole State. I quite agree that Claims from the general public should be scrutinized and investigated into carefully. I am not going to interfere with Powers of Government in its procedure except that I ask Government of my State to consider my Claims separately as the Government of my State has the full knowledge of all my things that had been lost. I, therefore, ask that my Claims be favourably considered and that I might be paid fairly and as early as possible as I need money badly to spend on the Celebrations of my forthcoming Silver Jubilee which is definitely going to take place on 20th: and 21st: September this year. On the day mentioned above, it would be exactly 25 years of my reign since I succeeded my deceased father, Almarhum Sultan Mohamed Jemalul-Aalam as Sultan and the Yang Di-Pertuan, Brunei.

My age, up to that date of my Silver Jubilee shall be 36 years. In addition to my request for a consideration to pay my War Damage Claims which amounted to a sum of about \$64,000.00, I appeal for the Justice of His Majesty's Government to go into the question of my Monthly Politicale Allowance of \$3,000.00, which I am now receiving from the Government of my State. This amount is exclusive of the salary of my Private Secretary, my clerks, and my Office-peons who are all paid by Government. All these past years I have been waiting patiently for better consideration without attempting to write to Government, but realizing that patience had not done me any good, I have now decided to place before you my grievances as I feel most dissatisfied being the only Sultan whose Political Allowance is the least as compared with the Allowances drawn by any individual Sultan in Malaya. Out of this \$3,000.00, a month I am also paying the wages of my care-takers of my two palaces, Maid-servants, Cooks and Boys. The British Resident, Brunei, is well aware of this, and my Private Secretary even knows better the exact position. I started to draw \$1,000.00, per month, then it was increased to \$1,500.00, and just before the Second World War, it was further increased to \$2,000.00, In 1947, it was increased to \$3,000.00.

With this \$3,000.00 I receive monthly I find I have not been able to keep aside as Savings and should I still continue to receive the same amount my unhappiness will remain the same for ever. I feel all this time I have not been fairly treated on the same line as Sultans in Malaya, like the Sultan of Johore, Kelantan, Trengganu, Perak, Selangor, Negri Sembilan, Kedah, etc: and each State has



20
Office of His Highness the Sultan

-3-

Brunei, 194

has a palace built by the Government properly planned by skilful architects, while in my case since I became the Sultan 25 years ago, no attempt has been made by the Government of my State to build a palace for my use out of Government Estimates. It is only recently that the Government has thought of this, but even that it is not yet known when this palace could be completed. The old palace which I had called the ISTANA MAHKOTA, was built by me out of the CESSION MONIES which I received from Sarawak and British North Borneo amounting to about 1/2 8,000.00, a year. With this money I built the old Istana Mahkota which had cost me about \$19,000.00, including the cost of making additions and alterations. The Contractor was an English man named Mr. H.F. Starlley, and the Istana was completed in 1932, when the British Resident at that time was Mr. T.F. Carey, a Malayan Civil Service Officer.


I hope with all the facts I am placing before you, you will be kind enough to consider a reasonable increase of my Monthly Political Allowance, for am feeling very much ashamed of all the Sultans in the Federation who draw very much bigger allowances from their respective States.

As Brunei Darul-Sallam, my State, is on an entire different Status and Political Administration, I feel sure the local Government will be in a position to use its reasonable discretion without referring to the Federation. With a fair deal to the Ruler of the State, my subjects would feel happy and proud. The State of Brunei is producing such a good Revenue from its Mineral resources such as Benzine from Kuala Belait and Seria in the State. In the year, 1948, the Revenue on Benzine alone was about \$6,000,000.00. From this alone I hope you will be able to consider what reasonable amount of Monthly Political Allowance should the Ruler of such State draw. There is nothing for the State to lose if my Allowance is increased as a man after all is not going to live in this world up to 100 years. I ask for your sympathy in this matter and if you have any doubt as to the truth in my statement in this matter, His Majesty's Government can make proper enquiries.

I earnestly hope you will be kind enough to give this matter your personal attention, and determine your decision by a proper investigation and enquiries. I feel also longing to pay a visit to England and gain the audience of His Majesty The King in the near future, when time permits, together with my Private Secretary, Inche Mohamed Hassan, my wife, The Tengku Ampuan, and my two daughters. When I have made up my mind to proceed to England, I shall submit to Your Honour my intention.

I shall not prolong with writing this letter, and all the facts I am submitting to you are facts for your personal knowledge and hope my submission will meet with success.

With my kindest regard and best wishes to you and to all friends known to me in England.





21

Office of His Highness the Sultan

-4-.

Brunei, 194

From:-

Your Most Sincerely,

AHMAD TAJUDDIN,

Sultan and The Yang Di-Pertuan,

BRUNEI, DARUL-SALLAM.

Written At Istana Kechil, Rock Road, Kuching,
S A R A W A K.

This 11th: Day of July, 1949.

Translated by:-

Mohamed Hassan, Private Secretary
to

H.H. The Sultan of Brunei.

11. 7. 1949.

59721/49 Brunei.

22 2/3
The Church House,
Great Smith Street,
S.W.1.

3rd June, 1949.

Your Highness,

Thank you very much for your letter of 23rd May, on the subject of your forthcoming Silver Jubilee. If circumstances permitted, I should indeed be glad to accept Your Highness's kind invitation to attend the celebrations of this memorable event. I regret to say, however, that my duties in London will almost certainly deny me that pleasure.

I would suggest that on the question of public expenditure on this occasion Your Highness should consult the Resident, who will, I am fully confident, give the matter the most careful attention.

I was pleased to learn a little while ago that the state of your health has now enabled Your Highness to return to Brunei from Kuching, and I take this opportunity of wishing Your Highness the very best of health and happiness at all times.

Yours sincerely,

(sgd) A. CRECH JONES.

His Highness the
Sultan of Brunei.

59721/49.

23

Mr. Clinton 3/5
 Mr. G. Whiteley 31/5
 Mr. Higham 2/6
 Mr. Roberts 3/6
 Mr. Wesson 5/3/6

Permt. U.S. of S.

Parly. U.S. S.

Minister of State

Secretary of State

Your Reference.....

For sig. of the
 Secretary of State.

DRAFT.

letter.

Personal.

His Highness the
 Sultan of BRUNEI.

— June, 1949.

Your Highness,

(1) Thank you very much
 for your letter of 23rd May,
 on the subject of your
 forthcoming Silver Jubilee.

I ~~have been looking~~
 forward with interest to
 that memorable event
 and, if circumstances
 permitted, I should indeed
 be glad to accept Your
 Highness's kind invitation to
 attend the celebrations ^{of this memorable event.}
 I regret to say however that
 my duties in London
 will almost certainly deny me
 that pleasure.

(would suggest)
 I think that the most
 satisfactory way of dealing

FURTHER ACTION.

Two copies of this
 and two copies of (1)
 to the High Commissioner
 for Brunei for info.

(3)

24
~~with~~ the question of public
expenditure ^{on this occasion} ~~on this, as on~~
~~any other occasion would be~~

~~for Your Highness kindly to~~
~~mention the point to the~~ ^{should consult}
~~Resident, who will no doubt~~ ^{consult}
~~seek instructions from the~~
~~High Commissioner, if necessary.~~
^{who will.}

I am fully confident, that
~~these officers will give the matter the~~
~~question their most careful~~
~~and sympathetic attention.~~

~~particularly bearing in mind~~
~~the importance of the occasion~~
~~and the fact that Your~~
~~Highness intends only to ask~~
~~for a reasonable sum.~~

I was pleased to learn
a little while ago that the
state of your health has
now ~~permitted~~ ^{enabled} Your Highness
to return to BRUNEI from
KUCOTING, and I take this
opportunity of wishing Your
Highness the very best of
health and happiness at all
times.

Yours sincerely,

MEMORANDUM

25

From PRIVATE SECRETARY

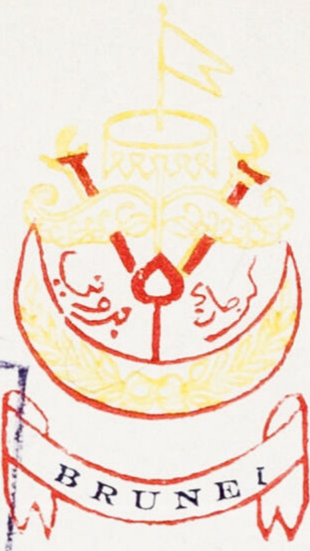
To Sir E. Whitley

Would you kindly
consider and advise upon the
action to be taken on the
attached letter from the Sultan
of Brunei.

in Review
30.5.49.

26

1



RECEIVED
PRIVATE OFFICE
30 MAY 1949

Office of His Highness the Sultan

Brunei 23rd: May, 1949

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE,
MR: A. CREECH JONES,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,
LONDON, ENGLAND.

May it please Your Honour,

With very sincere
motive and good intention, I wish to take
this opportunity of writing to my friend and
placing before you for your personal know-
ledge the following facts for the favour of
your very kind consideration and support.

2. In the month of September this year,
1949, I shall be celebrating my SILVER JUB-
ILEE, and for this purpose I should like to
ask the Government of my State with your
sympathetic support from England a suitable
Grant to be made to me of a reasonable sum

Handwritten signature



27

Office of His Highness the Sultan

Brunei 194 .

-2-

sum of money to enable me to celebrate the occasion in a manner which would give every satisfaction both to my country itself and to my people. I ask for this special Grant for reason that I have not got the money myself to spend for this very important occasion as the Monthly Political Allowance which I am now drawing from Government is very much less than those drawn by any individual Sultan in the Federation of Malaya.

3. The Monthly Political Allowance which I am now drawing is just \$3,000.00 per mensem, and for your personal knowledge, I should very much like to invite you to be present in Brunei yourself on the occasion of forthcoming SILVER JUBILEE when perhaps my friend will be able to witness the actual Celebrations.

Handwritten signature



28

Office of His Highness the Sultan

Brunei 194 .

-3-

4. I visited England a few years ago and even for this journey itself I had partly to pay out of my own pocket for expenses I had to incur. I should think it would be very more fair and reasonable for such journey made by any Sultan be paid by the Government of his own State because the country he is making a visit to is England under which such Sultan seeks Protection.

5. I shall, therefore, be most grateful to my friend if my reasonable request which I am placing before you shall meet with my friend's very kind consideration and support.

With my personal and very sincere and best wishes.

Awaiting the favour of my friend's favourable reply.



29
END

Office of His Highness the Sultan

Brunei.....194 .

-4-.

Yours very Sincerely,

Sultan Ahmad Tajuddin

BRUNEI DARUL-SALLAM.

At Istana Alkahu-Fiddunia,
Brunei Darul-Sallam,

This 23rd: Day of May, 1949.

Translated to the best of my ability and

Knowledge by:- Mohamed Hassan

Private Secretary to

H.H. The Sultan of Brunei.

1949

59721

59721

1949

Correspondence with the Sultan. 1949. MS Records of the British Colonial Office CO 943/1/20. The National Archives (Kew, United Kingdom). State Papers Online Colonial, link.gale.com/apps/doc/FDMNNK044807029/SPOC?u=omni&sid=bookmark-SPOC&pg=1. Accessed 21 Dec. 2024.